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The fossil remains of the deer, at first supposed to belong to an extinct species, for which the name of *Cervus muscatinensis* was suggested, were discovered in grading a street in the city of Muscatine. From the Loess of the same locality Prof. Witter has collected the following fossil shells: *Helix striatella*, *H. fulva*, *H. pulchella*, *H. lineata*, *Pupa muscorum*, *P. blandi*, *P. simplex*, *Succinea obliqua*, *S. avara*, *Limnea humilis*? and *Helicina occulta*.

FEBRUARY 11.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-one persons present.

Natives of Botel Tobago.—The President read the following extract from a letter by Dr. CHARLES A. SIEGFRIED, U. S. N., dated December 20, 1878: "We visited an island called Botel Tobago, while surveying a rock, 80 miles east of South Cape of Formosa. We found a race of aborigines, probably from Malay stock. They knew nothing of money, rum, or tobacco. They gave us goats and pigs for tin pots and brass buttons, and would hang around us all day in their canoes, waiting for a chance to dive for something thrown overboard. They wore clouts only; ate taro and yams mainly, though they have pigs, goats, chickens, and fish, and cocoanuts also. Snakes abound, of the boa variety I judge. Their thatch houses are low, with much overhang of the roof, surrounded by stone walls, strongly made of laid stone to protect them from monsoons. Their paddy fields contain immense quantities of taro, *Colocasia aroidea* my botany says. They are peaceful and timid, do not mark the body or deform the face or teeth, and seem happy enough in their condition. I found them fairly healthy. They had axes, spears, and knives, but all of common iron, the axe being made by imbedding the handle instead of the handle piercing the iron, as with us. Their canoes are beautiful, made without nails, and are ornamented usually with geometrical lines. The hair is worn naturally, the men partly clipping theirs. I saw no valuable metal. They wore the beards of goats, with small shells, as neck ornaments."

Cutting or Parasol Ant, Atta fervens, Say.—The Rev. H. C. McCook stated that he had in course of preparation a detailed account of the architecture and habits of the Cutting Ant of Texas. The observations, of which he proceeded to give an abstract, were made during an encampment for purposes of study, south of Austin, Texas.

1. *Exterior Architecture.*—Two forms were noted. The first, seen at a point distinguished as Camp Wright, was that of a